Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A virtual reality encounter system comprising,

a mannequin;

a camera coupled to the mannequin, the camera capturing an image of a first, physical location in which the mannequin is disposed, and producing a first video image signal from the first captured image;

a processor that receives the first video image signal and morphs the first video image signal;

an adapter to send the morphed, first video image signal to a communications network and sounds in connection with a theme of the morphed, first video image signal and to receive a second, video image signal from the communications network, the second video image signal of a second, different physical location; and

a set of goggles to render the second video image of the second, different physical location on a pair of displays that are integrated with the set of goggles.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the processor overlays a virtual environment over one or more portions of the video image to form a virtual scene.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2, wherein the mannequin is a humanoid robot having tactile sensors positioned along the exterior of the robot, the sensors sending first tactile signals to the communications network;

the system further including:

a body suit having tactile actuators, the tactile actuators receiving second tactile signals from the communications network.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, further comprising:

motion sensors positioned throughout the body suit, the motion sensors sending first motion signals corresponding to movements of each sensor relative to a reference point, the first motion signals transmitted to the communications network; and wherein the humanoid robot is a first humanoid robot and the system further comprises:

a second humanoid robot at the second location, the second humanoid robot receiving, from the communications network, the first motion signals from the motion sensors, the first motion signals from the motion sensors causing a movement of the second humanoid robot that is correlated to a movement of the body suit.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the second humanoid robot includes motion actuators corresponding to the motion sensors, the motion actuators causing the second humanoid robot to move.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the second humanoid robot has life-like features, the second humanoid robot comprises:

a body; and

a microphone coupled to the body, the microphone for sending audio signals, corresponding to sounds in the second physical location, to the communications network.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the set of goggles further includes a transducer to render the audio signals, received from the communication network, corresponding to the sounds in the second physical location.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, further comprising:

a first microphone coupled to the first humanoid robot;

a second humanoid robot in the second location, the second humanoid robot supporting a second microphone and a second camera; and

a second set of goggles in the second location to receive the morphed first video image signals and a second earphone to receive the audio signals from the first microphone.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprises:

a first communication gateway in the first location;

a second processor in the second location to process video from the second location; and

a second communication gateway in the second location, the second processor connected to the first processor via the communications network.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the communications network comprises an interface having one or more channels for:

receiving the audio signals from the microphone;

receiving the video image from the camera;

sending the ~~audio~~ video signals to the set of goggles; and

sending the audio signals to the transducer.

11. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the body includes an eye socket and the camera is positioned in the eye socket.

12. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the body includes an ear canal and the microphone is positioned within the ear canal.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the set of goggles, comprises a wireless receiver to wirelessly receive the morphed video image.

14. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the robot comprises a transmitter to wirelessly send the audio signals, the tactile signals, the motion signals and the video image to the communications network.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of having a virtual encounter, comprising:

receiving a first video image from a camera coupled to a mannequin, the mannequin disposed in a first physical location;

morphing the first video image;

sending the morphed video image over a communications network and sounds in connection with a theme of the morphed video image;

receiving a second video image from a camera coupled to a second mannequin disposed in a second physical location; and

rendering the second video image using a set of goggles in the first location, the goggles including displays for rendering the image, wherein the displays are integrated with the set of the goggles.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

overlaying a virtual environment over one or more portions of the video image to form a virtual scene.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the mannequin is a humanoid robot and the method further comprising:

sending first tactile signals from the humanoid robot to the communications network, from tactile sensors positioned along the exterior of the robot; and

receiving second tactile signals from the communications network at a body suit in the first location, the body suit having tactile actuators responsive to the second tactile signals.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

sending first motion signals from motion sensors positioned over the surface of a human, the first motion signals corresponding to movements of sensors relative to a reference point, the first motion signals being transmitted to a communications network.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising:

receiving, at the humanoid robot, second motion signals sent by motion sensors disposed in a second, different physical location; and

causing a movement of the humanoid robot that is correlated to a movement of the human based on the second motion signals received from the motion sensors, wherein receiving comprises

receiving motion signals from the motion sensors at corresponding motion actuators coupled to the humanoid robot the humanoid robot to move.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

sending first audio signals over the communications network, the audio signals being produced from a microphone coupled to the robot in the first physical location; and

transducing second audio signals received from the communications network using a transducer embedded in the set of goggles, the second audio signals from a second, different physical location.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising:

sending the second audio signals to the communications network from a second microphone coupled to a second humanoid robot having life-like features;

sending the second video image to the communications network from a second camera coupled to the second humanoid robot;

rendering the second image received from the communications network onto a monitor coupled to a second set of goggles; and

transducing the audio signals received from the communications network using a second transducer embedded in the second set of goggles.

22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the humanoid robot includes an eye socket and the camera is positioned in the eye socket.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the humanoid robot includes an ear canal and further comprising positioning the microphone within the ear canal.

24. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the set of goggles, comprises a receiver to receive the morphed video image.

25. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the humanoid robot further comprises a transmitter to wirelessly send the audio signals and the video image to the communications network.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the goggles receive a morphed second video image from the processor.